4/17/70

Dear Harold,

I have just received a letter from the Archives and am more exasperated than ususal by their evasions and non-answers.

They say that the memo mentioned in Humes' testimony is not attached to the coat, and then they give the usual ellipsis that it is not in their "relevent" files. I will ask for a clarification of this.

They say that the memo of transfer is a private property which is not the property of the U.S. They say it was left in the A for safekeeping but that it belongs to the JFK family. For permission to see it I must write Burke Marshall.

I asked for CD's 434 and 451 which are cited in Inquest as the source of a Soviet file which says LHO was a poor shot. They tell me that both files are witheld from research under guidelineX 3A. I do not know what this is and will ask. However, I fail to see how they can withold anything which has already been cited in a published work.

Remember the trouble I had with Specter when he wouldn't admit that documents were in CD 371 and not printed in CE 397? To protect myslef from this sort of nonsense in the future, I wrote the Archives for certification that documents were not printed and asked which ones. I know, of course, that there were two. So what do they answer? They say only <u>one</u> page was not printed, the receipt from the Treasury Dept. and they enclosed a copy. Now I must write them and cite WW II and get a true certification.

When I write them again, I want to demand that I be given a copy of the real Nichols base photo, telling them that it was shown to me personally by Nichols and bore an Archives stamp on back, noting that it could not even be remotely mistaken for the one they sent. However, I will not write them until I hear from you in case you want to approach it in a different way or think it willinterfre with your current efforts.

Also, those bastards assured me that slides take 2 to 3 weeks to get. It has been 6 weeks that I've waited for my color slides--nothing!

They've made a little change in the stationary. On top of "General Services Admin" is printed "United States of America." It is already bad enough that there is the "keep freedom in your future" on the bottom. With letters such as those they send us, I like to be reminded of neither.

Still,

Harold Weisberg